



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Timothy J. Rymer et al.

Docket No.: 16,820

Serial No.: 10/037,385

Group No.: 1732

Confirmation No.: 6803

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: December 20, 2001

Date: June 26, 2002

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING ON-LINE STABILIZED
ABSORBENT MATERIALS

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**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent applications to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/738,552 filed December 15, 2000, by V. A. Topolkaraev et al. for "METHODS OF MAKING DISPOSABLE PRODUCTS HAVING MATERIALS HAVING SHAPE MEMORY."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/738,549 filed December 15, 2000, by M.J. Garvey et al. for "METHODS OF MAKING MATERIALS HAVING SHAPE MEMORY."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/738,397 filed December 15, 2000, by V. A. Topolkaraev et al. for "DISPOSABLE PRODUCTS HAVING MATERIALS HAVING SHAPE MEMORY."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/034,079 filed December 20, 2001, by F. P. Abuto et al. for "TARGETED BONDING FIBERS FOR STABILIZED ABSORBENT STRUCTURES."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/034,021 filed December 20, 2001, by J. Workman et al. for "ABSORBENT STRUCTURES HAVING LOW MELTING FIBERS."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/033,860 filed December 20, 2001, by F. P. Abuto et al. for
"TARGETED ON-LINE STABILIZED ABSORBENT STRUCTURES."

These applications are not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449; however, copies of these applications are provided herewith.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-4043.

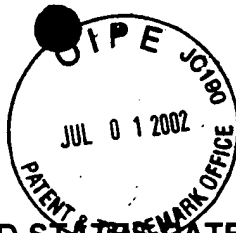
Respectfully submitted,

TIMOTHY J. RYMER ET AL.

By: 

Thomas M. Parker

Registration No.: 42,063



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PATENT

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence comprising:

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date
2 Page(s) of PTO Form 1449
49 Document(s)

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in a box addressed to:

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